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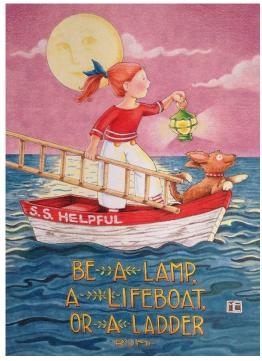
www.uccseb.org

office@uccseb.org



## May 2016

BE A LAMP ♥ A LIFEBOAT ♥ OR A LADDER



#### From Rachel & Lydía

Be a lamp, or a lifeboat, or a ladder. Help someone's soul heal. Walk out of your house like a shepherd. – Rumi

People who don't go to church often think that we come every week to hear "the expert" in the pulpit tell us how to live. The Internet abounds with experts! Who needs a church just for that? We are here because we need each other. In this time of transition, we feel that need more than ever. The emotions are palpable as the ground shifts beneath our feet. Ground yourself in your love for this community and in this community's love for you! Your presence is more crucial than ever. Come soak up the benefits of community! Then ponder, what is Love asking of you in this transition? Maybe you're feeling visionary; be a lamp! Maybe you're feeling

compassionate; be a lifeboat! Maybe you have resources to move us onward and upward; be a ladder! I am praying for you in this time of transition. May you have the courage to ask for the support you need and the wisdom to be of support in all the ways that you can. Lvdia

Be strong then, and enter into your own body; there you have a solid place for your feet. - Kabir

In times of transition it can be helpful to remember the things that ground us, the places in our lives where we can stand in our strength. For some of us that groundedness comes from prayer, or friendship, or making music together. For others of us, we might feel like we come home to ourselves when we share a meal or laugh really hard or take a hot bath. As a church community it is our holy friendships (with God and each other) that make us strong -- as we "enter into our own body," the body of Christ, we may find an inner strength when we look to each other in community. The living body of Christ is right here in our church-- it's a solid place for our feet and a loving place to live into our strength! Many Blessings on this month of May, on transition, and on the strength we find in community.

#### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Join Grief Counselors Harry & Susanna Simms in the Fireside Room on Thursday evenings at 7PM as they facilitate a support group dealing with the pain of grief. Losing a loved one, whether it be a recent loss, or from years past, can be difficult to process. Please call Harry or Susanna at 829-7769 if you have any questions. The group meets each Thursday at 7PM in the Fireside Room. There is no charge and the group is open to all.

#### ADULT EDUCATION SUNDAY MORNING CLASS

Please join us Sundays at 9:30 in the Fireside Room for coffee and to discuss the scripture chosen for the sermon. We will begin the discussion with a brief insight into the pastor's view of the passage and pose questions for the group. We will read the passage, discuss it, and then listen to the Sunday sermon with a little more insight and hear what the pastor has to say. You don't need to be a Bible scholar, just have the desire to delve into the Bible, one scripture at a time.

#### BAKED GOODS FOR SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR

We need to stock up with goodies to share during our Coffee Hour! If you have cookies, cake or some kind of treat we can serve after church, please bring it by the church wrapped for the freezer and we can save it for next Sunday. Thanks!

#### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study will meet in May on Wednesday, May 4, 11, 18 & 25 in the Fireside Room at 10 AM. We will begin with Job, Chapter 28 – Wisdom in an Informational Age. On May 11:



Job 35-36 – Job in Distress. On May 18: Job 38 – God in the Storm and on May 25: Job 42 – Job's Final Answer: Is Faith Worthwhile?

The group will then break for the summer and return on September 14. All women are invited to Women's Bible Study. Questions? Please contact Joanne Matson at 823-5249.

## Preaching Schedule May 2016

- May 1 Rev. Brian Plaugher
  Communion Sunday & Baptism
- May 8 Sr. Pastor Candidate to preach
  Congregational Meeting immediately
  following worship
- May 15 Lydia Mulkey
- May 22 UCC Conference Minister, Davena Jones
  Middle School Mini Mission Trip
  participants commissioned during
  worship



#### Name Tags?

If your name tag has come up missing, or you don't have a name tag, we'd like to get one for you! And if you already have your name tag, please make a habit of clipping it on to help all of us remember your name!

To get a new or replacement name tag, print C L E A R L Y the first and last name you would like to see on your church name tag. Leave this request in the church office or collection plate:

First Name	 	 
Last Name	 	 



Sr. High School PF Grades 9-12 Middle School PF Grades 6-8

May 2016

#### May 1 - Youth Lounge

4 -4:30 PM Middle School Hang Out ★ 4:30 -6 PM Meeting 6 PM High School Hang Out ★ 6:30 -8 PM Meeting

#### Saturday, May 7 - 11:30 AM at Mary's Pizza

Join Lydia at Mary's and meet the man who may be our next preacher! Lunch is on the Search Committee – so bring your appetite and your questions.

#### May 8 – No Youth Groups Tonight

Happy Mother's Day – tell someone important in your life that you love them! This would be a great day to join us in worship and hear the Sr. Pastor candidate preach.

#### May 15 - Youth Lounge

4 -4:30 PM Middle School Hang Out \* 4:30 -6 PM Meeting 6 PM High School Hang Out \* 6:30 -8 PM Meeting

## May 22 - Middle School Mini-Mission Trip Commissioning During 10:30am Worship -

No Youth Groups meeting this week

May 28-30- Middle School Mini-Mission Trip We will have a busy weekend in Sacramento!

Check with Lydia for all the details.

Here are some dates to mark on your calendar: June 5- End of the Year Youth Group Celebration!

Picnic and Hiking at Bodega Bay Please bring \$5 to cover transportation and food. Depart in Church Van immediately after worship (See you for worship at 10:30am). Return by 5pm.

July 25-Aug 2 – Sr. High Mission & National Youth Event



Northern California Nevada Conference United Church of Christ

#### Summer Camps 2016

#### At Camp Cazadero

You & Me Camp (ENTERING GRADES 1-3) July 8-10

You & Me Camp is a great experience for first-time campers! Go to camp with a parent, grandparent, favorite aunt/uncle or other adult! Each adult may bring up to 3 children, entering grades 1-3. Each child may bring up to 2 adults. Check out registration and special pricing at <a href="https://www.ncncucc.org">www.ncncucc.org</a>

Junior Camp (ENTERING GRADES 4-6) July 17-23

Jr. High Camp (ENTERING GRADES 7-9) July 24- 30

Sr. High Camp (ENTERING GRADES 10-12) July 10-16

Counselor in Training (GRADE 12+) July 17-23

#### At Camp Tamarack

Junior/Jr. High Camp (entering grades 5-8) July 24-30 Sr. High Camp (entering grades 9-12) July 17-23

Check <u>www.ncncucc.org</u> for more information and to download registration and health forms.

Apple Pie Scholarships are available for all our campers – call the church office to sign up to help at our Apple Pies event (Aug 11-14) and earn \$\$ for camp!

## Community Church of Sebastopol's FAMILY CAMP: September 2-3-4, 2016

Mark your calendar now so you don't miss out on all the fun!



- 1 Príscilla Best Chris Junge Noah Yaylian
- 2 Natalie Belew Debby McLeod Callen Warner
- Eddie Ahvenainen Lisa Gonzalez
- 4 Dave Bell Líly McClendon Russell Albin
- Genía Thorhaug
- Danielle Berndt
- Rosemary Manchester
- John Símmons Allen Sherman
- 9 Jenna Gonzales
- 10 Judy Peterson Lísa Dawson Emílie Jame Amanda Bachelor
- 11 Muriel Weaver Dale Dougherty
- 12 Prue Manley Marilyn McHugh Richard Wood Preston Paull

- Mark Albín Bíll Stíllman
- 14 Eva Stevens
- 15 Mike Moore
- William Stoll
- 17 Janet Minton Marilyn Lerum
- 18 Andrea Furber Card
- Morgan Thomas
- 20 Marc Felton Theo Davidson
- 21 Barbara Deedler Maryssa Lovejoy
- 22 Megan Ford Valerie Minton Heather Davis
- 24 Jeff Kalemba
- 26 Babetta Wilson
- Sonya Krautner
- Bill Phillips
- Nathan Foster Kristen McKoin Celía Cummings
- Mary Coleman Corrine Ford





All women of the church are an innate part of Women's Fellowship and are invited to attend any Fellowship activity, whether or not they are interested in becoming further involved.

We welcome participation at any time by women who have an interest in some or all of our activities. Our meeting schedule is the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month:



Thursday, May 12: Monthly Meeting

10 AM - Executive Board - Women's Fellowship Office

10:30 AM - Business Meeting - Faith Chapel

**11:15 AM - Program** - TBA

12 PM - Brown Bag Lunch - Fellowship Hall



Thursday. May 26: Circle Meetings

**Circle 1** – 1 pm – Crafting for in Fellowship Hall.

Circle 2 – 10 am – location to be announced



#### LET'S GET CREATIVE

Coming this summer – your chance to show off your creativity! During the summer months our Sunday bulletin covers will feature artwork from members and friends of the Community Church – maybe you would like to see your artwork in print. We have featured everything from photos of your quilting project, to copies of watercolors and oils, drawings and photographs. We need to be able to copy your project on our copier in the office and shrink it to fit our our bulletin cover (8 ½ x 7). Call the office with any questions at 823-2484 or office@uccseb.org.



#### CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children (age 6-11) are invited to choir practice on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM in the Choir Room with Lydia Mulkey. The Children's Choir schedule is below:



May 1 Rehearsal 9:30-10:20 am

May 8 Rehearsal 9:30-10:20 am and sing in worship:

This Is the Day

May 15 Rehearsal 9:30-10:20 am

May 22 Rehearsal 9:30-10:20 am

May 29 Rehearsal 9:30-10:20 am

• Amazing Grace! #546 sung by heart.

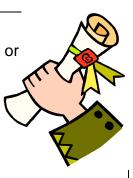
**June 5** Our Last Rehearsal before Summer Break! 9:30-10:20 am and sing in worship:

Come, Let Us Sing and May the Lord Watch CE Sunday & Choir Recognition during worship

Questions? Contact Children's Choir Director Lydia Mulkey at 823-2484 ext.104 or <a href="mailto:LydiaMulkey@uccseb.org">LydiaMulkey@uccseb.org</a>.

#### In Search of Graduates ...

Do you have a new graduate in your family or someone who will be graduating soon? High school, college, and advanced degrees – we want to list them all right here in our newsletter. Please call the office at 823-2484 ext. 100 to list your graduate in our June Newsletter or send an email to office@uccseb.org.



#### UKULELE GROUP MEETS ON FRIDAYS

The UkeStars will continue to meet on Fridays in the Fellowship Hall for their jam sessions and weekly practice from 10-11:30 AM. For information please call Vicki Reno at 827-3668 or email at vreno@comcast.net.

#### TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!



Our 3-time World Champion San Francisco Giants are on track to take it all again this year and we have 26 tickets for a day game on Wednesday, August 17 against the Pittsburg Pirates. We have

seats in the Club Level, section 202, Rows A thru-D – so sign up for the game and bring your glove! We offer these tickets at our cost, plus the cost of transportation. Ticket price with transportation is \$103 or just the ticket (you find your own transportation, pay for parking and bridge toll) is \$83. We plan to take the church van and other private vehicles (with compensation to the drivers) or you may choose to drive on your own. Mark your calendar now and sign up in the church office or call 823-2484 ext. 100. Game time is 12:45 pm and we will leave the Danmar parking lot at 10 am. Go Giants!



#### MEN'S GROUP WEDNESDAY AT 9 AM FAITH CHAPEL

An informal Men's Group meets in

Faith Chapel on Wednesday mornings at 9 am. All men are invited to attend and join in the discussion on a variety of topics. For more information contact Steve Beck at 829-0314.



Mark your calendar for this fun multi-generational event August 11-14 as we prepare and bake over 1600 Gravenstein apple pies for the Gravenstein Apple Fair. Not only is this event fun, but all proceeds fund our camp scholarships for Youth Summer Camps and Family Camp at Camp Cazadero.



#### **Interest Centers- Summer 2016**

#### Sign Up to Serve!

This summer our religious education will continue through our interest centers! When you sign up, you will receive an already prepared lesson

plan with everything you'll need to lead children through a meaningful and fun exploration of the story!

Name	 	 	
Phone_			
Email			

#### Please check the weeks you would like to serve:



#### The Lord Is My Shepherd Psalm 23 July 12-24

- □June 12 Art
- □June 26 Bible Skills and Games
- □July 3 Cooking
- □July 10 Creative Drama
- □July 17 Music
- □July 24 Science



## The Story of Lydia Acts 16:11-15 July 31-Sept 4

- □July 31 Art
- □August 7 Bible Skills and Games
- □August 14 Cooking
- □August 21 Creative Drama
- □August 28 Music
- □September 4 Science

Drop this form in the offering plate or return to the church office.

Thank you for supporting our ministry to children!

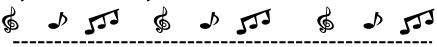


During the summer months, the various church choirs and music groups take time off. Thus, there is no one scheduled to provide music during worship from June 19 until September 11 when we officially launch the new church year.

This provides everyone in the congregation a chance to help shape worship for at

least one summer Sunday. The music can be instrumental or choral, traditional or something new. It's a chance to show how a different style of music might support the worship experience.

Fill in the form below and drop it off in the collection plate or the church office, or see the sign up sheet in the church office. Or you may call Karin to add your name to the list at 823-2484 ext 100.



Yes! I want to provide special music one Sunday during the summer!

Name		 	
Phone Number	er		

Please circle the Sunday you would like to reserve:

June 26

July 3	July 10	July 17	July 24	July 3
Λιιαι	ict 7 Aug	uct 1.1 Aug	uot 21 Λι	10110t 20

August 7 August 14 August 21 August 28





## Vacation Bible Camp



# Jonah & the Whale

June 13-17 from 9 am to 12 pm for ages 4-10 with a special presentation during worship on June 19

Sponsored by the Jr. High and Sr. High Youth Groups at the Community Church of Sebastopol, UCC

Early bird registration before June 6 -\$115 per child After June 6, \$125 per child or \$25 per day. Ask about our sibling discount & scholarship information. (No before or after care available.)

Registration forms available in the church office or <a href="https://www.uccseb.org">www.uccseb.org</a>.

Join us for a week-long day camp learning about God's love through music, art, dance and discovery. Join us June 13-17 from 9:00-12 every day, plus a special presentation on June 19!



- ★ Dress up days
- ★ Dancing
- ★ Singing,
- ★ Crafts
- ★ Fun discoveries

And on Sunday, June 19, a fun MADD Camp presentation for the whole family to enjoy during worship. Call the Community Church at 823-2484 ext. 100 or office@uccseb.org with questions.

## Good News & Even Better News on our Pilgrim Center Fundraising Campaign!

**Good news**: We are getting close to paying off our building debt to the 10 families who loaned money for our Pilgrim Center

completion. We have received \$161,000 so far. We expect the last of the pledges to be fulfilled. We only need \$74,000 more to be able to pay off the loan in full.



**Better news**: We have a generous donor who is willing to match any gifts made between April 17 and June 1st! That means any money you can give will be doubled. Please do what you can so we can finish the job and pay off our debt in June, a month ahead of schedule. What a blessing it will be to have no mortgage debt in our future! Come on folks, now is the time for People of Faith to Find the Funds once and for all.

#### Special Thanks...

Alvin and I greatly appreciate the many cards and email, telephone calls and meals that you sent our way while I was recovering from surgery. We are truly blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring congregation of pilgrims! Darryl

#### Thanks from Pamela Downie

As my seminary career completes I extend a big THANK YOU to this community for encouraging, supporting, and (yes) cheering me towards the finish line during these past 4 years. I will graduate with a Masters in Divinity on May 21. Familiar faces would be a blessing at the Baccalaureate or Graduation.

And secondly, as my internship responsibilities here at church have ended, I extend deep heart felt gratitude to: Joanne Matson, my shepherdess; Brian Plaugher, my shepherd; and Gene Nelson, my main teacher/mentor during this 9 month internship. They all generously provided from their treasure trove of knowledge and skills, feedback about how to improve my ministerial skills. Thank you--I appreciate your commitment!!









## MISSION & OUTREACH

Mission & Outreach has changed their meeting night and will now meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month. Their next meeting will be on Monday, May 9 at 7 PM in the Fireside Room.

#### SATURDAY TABLE

On the second Saturday of each month, Mission & Outreach serves lunch in Fellowship Hall to our local homeless population. In addition to offering a hot meal, we also offer showers, laundry vouchers and bus passes. If you would like to contribute to this effort, there are several ways to help:

- Cash and check can be made out to the Community Church and designated for the homeless lunch
- Soaps, shampoos and conditioner in sample or motel sizes
- \* Thick tube socks, sweat shirts, jackets, etc.
- Men's walking/athletic shoes or boots
- Tarps, rain ponchos, back packs
- Disposable razors and shaving cream
- Packaged toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Hand sanitizer, Chapstick, insect repellent and sun screen
- "Baby Wipes" or similar product

#### SNACK BAGS

Mission & Outreach invites you to participate in our Snack Bag program where we provide snack items to those who might not know where there next meal is coming from. Single servings of crackers, peanut butter, juice, tuna, canned fruit and other snack items, can be brought to the church office.

#### HUMAN RACE MAY 7

Help support our Mission & Outreach with your participation in the Human Race on May 7. Run, walk or sponsor folks from Mission & Outreach as they pledge to raise money for our own InterChurch Food Pantry – watch for sponsor sheets and Human Race registration forms in the church office. Members of Mission & Outreach will set up in the courtyard after church for you to sign up on their sponsor sheets.

#### NEWS ABOUT OUR INTERN, PAMELA DOWNIE



Seminarian Pamela Downie graduates from San Francisco Theological Seminary (SFTS) after completing 3 years of academic study and one year of Field Education (Internship). Pamela will graduate with a Masters of Divinity with Christian Spirituality and Pastoral/Spiritual Care concentrations. She extends a heartfelt thank you for your prayers and support during these

challenging past four years.

We have seen Pamela participating in different roles during the Sunday Worship Service, but Pamela considers her main call in a behind-the-scenes ministry that we usually don't see. She has developed an outreach ministry providing Pastoral Care to the sick, disabled, and home-bound population of our church community. Additionally, she has been providing care for the unhoused and at-risk population at The Living Room in Santa Rosa, serving as the role of Chaplain.

Her Baccalaureate Service will take place on Friday, May 20, at 4 pm followed by a reception. The Commencement Exercise will take place on the morning of Saturday, May 21, at SFTS in San Anselmo at 9:30. Find our more information by visiting: <a href="http://sfts.edu/2016commencement/">http://sfts.edu/2016commencement/</a> After graduation, Pamela will continue her Chaplaincy training intending to become a Board Certified Chaplain which will lead her to serving as a chaplain in a hospital setting.

#### NEW LIFE FOR YOUR OLD EYEGLASSES

Those old eyeglasses in your junk drawer are a great gift to someone in Mexico or South America through the *Lions In Sight* collection program. Just put the glasses in the collection box in the church entry and they will be processed and eventually reach an eye glass clinic to help someone improve their vision. Old hearing aids are also in demand.

Here is an opportunity to re-use and recycle at the same time as helping someone in need. If you have any questions, please see Jerry Coleman.



The entire family is invited – the Search Committee will provide • Lasagna • Salad • Bread • Beverages and we ask that you bring an appetizer (if your last name begins with A-L) or bring a dessert (last name M-Z.) Special activities are planned for the children for after dinner. We hope you can join us to share a meal and meet our candidate and his family.

To help us in planning for dinner, please let us know if you will be attending – just send a quick email with the number of adults & children in your family to: <a href="mailto:debbie@debbiemccallum.com">debbie@debbiemccallum.com</a>.

We also need help with set up and clean up – if you can help, please contact Caitie Carciere at <a href="mailto:Caitlin.carciere@gmail.com">Caitlin.carciere@gmail.com</a> or (707) 479-2190.

#### BEYOND THE TANK - MAY 20

Remember that great fund raiser we hosted with Sara & Josh Margulis from Plumbfund for the Valley Fire Victims in October? We helped raise more than \$18,000 for our neighbors in Lake County with a wonderful event in the courtyard and Memorial Hall. The TV cameras were rolling and the segment produced for Beyond the Tank is scheduled to be aired on May 20 at 8 pm. We will have a viewing here at the church that Friday night on the big screen in Memorial Hall. Doors open at 7:30 – come one, come all to see who you can spot on screen!

Thank you to our hard-working party planning group who made Gene's final weekend here at the Community Church so memorable! There were so many people involved as everyone wanted to lend a hand, but special thanks go to our leader Kathy Bell; to Gary & Denelle Tognozzi along with Roger &

Linda Collins for doing such a great job preparing meal for a full house on April 23. Thanks also to Kathy Matthies for securing all the decorations, details and desserts with help from Jean Polley, Kristen DelMonte and Chris Jenkins, to Karin Seder, Joyce Cox and Paula Berndt for the invitations and photos, to Jeff Boal, Chris Dawson, Harry Polley and Nancy Shimetz for the program, to Andy DelMonte, Lydia Mulkey and Sarah Margulis for music, thanks to Tom Terry and Sara for serving as bartenders; to the Balletto's, Dutton's and Trevino's for donations of wine. Thanks also to the Sebastopol Rotary with Edwin Wilson & team for providing the professional audio/visual equipment. Our Sunday program was coordenated by Ellen & Harry Sullivan with help from more than 30 families providing finger food, thanks to the Brass Choir and Children's Choir for presenting speical music along with Divine Connection. Thanks to Women's Fellowship for their creative gifts for Gene and to Nancy Shimetz, Ellen Sullivan, Pat Furber and Nancy Lee for compiling memory books for Gene. The entire weekend was a celebration worthy of the love and appreication we hold for Gene - and a reiminder that we are a strong and vital church, excited to begin our new chapter!

#### Wanted: MADD Camp Counselors Meeting May 15 and June 19 from Noon-2 PM

All youth (entering 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to become a MADD Camp Counselor. MADD Camp is June 13-17 from 9am -12pm and a program during worship on June 19. Counselors will need to be at MADD Camp from 8:15 am to -1pm every day. Find out more at an informational meeting on Sunday, May 15 from Noon-2 pm, in the Youth Lounge. There will be a final planning meeting on Sunday, June 19 from Noon-2 pm. Questions? Contact Lydia at 823-2484 ext. 104 or by email: <a href="LydiaMulkey@uccseb.org">LydiaMulkey@uccseb.org</a>. Adults are also needed to help with snacks each day and to help supervise other areas during the MADD Camp week. Give Lydia a call if you can help.



#### A Note from Our Moderator

A big thank you to everyone who helped with and attended the celebrations for Gene's retirement! It certainly was a note-worthy event in the life of our congregation. Now we anticipate meeting our search committee's

candidate on May 7 & 8. The Search Committee is hosting a simple dinner on May 7 in Memorial Hall – we hope you will come by to meet our candidate and his family. And please plan on staying after church on Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup> for the Congregational Meeting as we take a vote to issue a call.

As we look to the time period between ministers, it is very important that we all pitch in and help. Lydia, Rachel and Brian have all stepped up to preach and Jane Huneke has invited some very interesting guest preachers. We can all help by keeping up church attendance to extend a warm Community Church welcome to our preachers and other guests. Keeping up our pledges and offerings is also a very important contribution to the well-being of our church community. Lydia, Rachel and Brian will help with pastoral needs. Deaconate, Council, Trustees, and the Transition Team are all in place to help with other issues that may come up.

We are an active, caring faith community and with God's guidance and the help of staff, and each of us in the congregation, we will have a wonderful summer!

Joyce Cox, Church Moderator



COMMUNITY CHURCH OF SEBASTOPOL

## Family Camp

**SEPT 2-3-4, 2016** 

at Camp Caz with our new Sr. Pastor & his family. Look for registration soon - Volunteer for Apple Pies and earn a 30% discount!



#### Baptism

Kloie Emma Berndt, daughter of Danielle and Andy Berndt, was baptized into the Christian faith on April 17. Rev. Gene Nelson officiated the baptism during the Sunday worship service. Kloie is the granddaughter or our own Paula Berndt. Blessings!

#### Births

Knox Feige was born April 7 at Sutter Hospital in Santa Rosa to first time parents Daniel and Brianna Feige. Knox weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and measured 21" long. Proud grandparents are Bill & Roberta Feige and Terry & Alison Yeoman. Joanna Feige is now a Great Aunt and Henry and Ben Feige are uncles to baby Knox. Blessings & Congratulations!

Adeline Mae Olson arrived on April 21 to Ryan and Christina Olson in San Luis Obispo. She weighing 6 pounds 2 ounces and measured 17 1/2" and was welcomed home by big brother Beckett. This is grandchild #7 for our own Sharon & Dennis Olson. Blessings & Congratulations!

#### Death

Lorna Skinner passed away in March at age 89. Lorna, and her late husband Hal, joined the Community Church 50 years ago, shortly after moving to Sebastopol with their young family. A celebration of her life will be held on May 15 at the Sebastopol Center for the Arts at 3:30 pm. Please hold her daughter Kathi, and son-in-law, Greg Jacobs and all their family in your prayers.

#### Marriage Announcement

Save the date: Sunday, May 22, 2016

The Blackstone and Larssen families are looking forward to celebrating with our church community at a Sunday reception for Keith and Sonja. (They will have a small ceremony with family earlier in May.) Please save the date of Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, to join together for a coffee hour reception, here at church, following our regular Sunday worship service. In lieu of gifts, please consider a donation to the church building fund. Keith and Sonja are excited to share this joyous time with church friends!

## Biggest and Best News from the Search Committee: MEET OUR SR. PASTOR CANDIDATE MAY 7 & 8

The Search Committee is so happy to finally introduce our candidate for senior minister this month. Please plan to put time aside to meet him and his family on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. Most importantly, please attend church on Mother's Day, May 8<sup>th</sup>, to hear him preach and, if you are a member,



vote on his call. Here is the schedule for the weekend:

9:30-10:30 am: Council, Committee Chairs and Transition Committee gather in Fireside Room with the candidate and his wife. Invitations will be sent.

**11:30** am: **Middle School & Sr. High Youth** get-together at Mary's Pizza with Lydia and our candidate for a hosted lunch. Bring your appetite and questions!

**5:30 pm: All Church Family** Meet & Greet in Memorial Hall. The Search Committee will provide Lasagna, salad, bread and beverages; participants will be asked to bring appetizers or dessert to complete the menu.

On Sunday, May 8, everyone come to church to hear our candidate give the children's message, sermon and lead us in prayer. Immediately following that service, a congregational meeting will be held for the purpose of giving each church member an opportunity to vote by ballot on whether a formal call will be issued to this candidate to become our Senior Pastor. There will be more food to enjoy after that.

After you meet our candidate, confidentiality will still be an issue until Tuesday morning, May 10th. Please no cellphone photos, email or social media postings related to our candidate until he can inform his own church. His congregation needs to hear the news from him, in a letter that will go out on May 9<sup>th.</sup>

This is an important and exciting milestone for our church. We hope you will be able to participate and join us in envisioning a bright future together.

#### TRANSITION TEAM NEWS

Over the last several months, the Transition Committee has been working with our ministerial staff and Diaconate Board to ensure the congregation's ministerial needs are met after Gene's departure. We are fortunate that we have Lydia, Rachel, and Brian on staff and they are committed to provide for your pastoral needs during this time. Although summer vacations and youth trips/camps may create voids in their schedules at times, we are certain there is enough overlap in their schedules to provide support. In addition, we are contacting other local ministers to "be on call" as well. Please contact the church office to request pastoral support. The ministerial staff and Diaconate Board will work together to provide the support requested.

Our summer Worship services will continue to be comprised of interest centers for our children along with our special summer music series. In addition to our wonderful preachers on staff, the Diaconate Board has been coordinating a series of special summer guest preachers. More information will follow, but some of the guest preachers include.

- Davena Jones (Conference Minister)
- Lizann Bassham (Former Associate Pastor at the Community Church)
- Peter Skaife (a retired UCC Minister)
- Charles Ensley (a retired UCC Minister)
- Rob McClellan (Pastor at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Tiburon)
- Alan Kelchner (Former Preaching Professor)

Additionally, the St. Petersburg Choir will treat us to their special music on a Sunday in May. I am certain that we will all be enlightened by the variety of these great guest preachers and blessed by the diverse special summer music.

Please contact any member of the Transition Committee or Diaconate Board if you have concerns or suggestions.

Dan Rasmus, Transition Committee Chairperson Transition Team: Kathy Bell, Joyce Cox, Chris Dawson, Jane Huneke and Roger Wilson

#### May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion Sunday 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 4:00 PM Middle School Youth 6:00 PM Sr. High Youth	2	3	9:00 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir	7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	6 10:00 AM UkeStars	7 Support Mission & Outreach at the HUMAN RACE  9:30 AM Council, Chairs & Transition Team 11:30 AM Teen Get- together at Mary's 5:30 PM All Church Dinner & Meet & Greet
8 Sr. Pastor Candidate Preaches Congregational Meeting following Worship & Reception  9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry	9 7:00 PM Mission & Outreach	10	9:00 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir	12 10:00 AM WF Executive 10:30 AM WF Meeting 11:15 AM WF Program 12:00 PM WF Brown Bag Lunch 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	13 10:00 AM UkeStars	14 11:30 AM 2nd Saturday Lunch
15 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 4:00 PM Middle School Youth 6:00 PM Sr. High Youth	16	17	18 9:00 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Board of Trustees Meeting	7:00 PM CE Meeting 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	20 10:00 AM UkeStars 7:30 PM Beyond the Tank	21
9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Middle School Mini Mission Trip Commissioning 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry	<b>23 7:00 PM</b> Father's Group	24	25 9:00 AM Men's Group 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study 5:15 PM Handbell Choir 7:00 PM Church Council	26 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship Circle 2 Meeting 1:00 PM Women's Fellowship Circle 1 Meeting 7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	27 10:00 AM UkeStars	28 Middle School Mini Mission Trip
29 Middle School Mini Mission Trip 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM Children's Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Children's Ministry 4:00 PM Middle School Youth 6:00 PM Sr. High Youth	30 Middle School Mini Mission Trip	31	1 5:15 PM Handbell Choir	7:00 PM Grief Group 7:15 PM Chancel Choir	3 10:00 AM UkeStars	4